

Document No. Approved For Release 2002/02/11 : CIA-RDP78-04718A001700010004-0  
No Change in Class. ☐  
☐ Declassified  
Class. Changed to: TS S C  
Next Review Date: 12.15.88  
Auth: HR 78-3  
Date: 11.13.78 By: 35

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JUL 19 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Plans and Programming Coordination Staff

SUBJECT : Format and Content of the Operational Programs

REFERENCE : Memorandum to DD/S from C/PPC dtd 24 June 55, sub:  
"Format and Content of the Operational Programs  
of the Clandestine Services"

1. I have, with my Staff, made a careful review of your proposal to revise the format and content of the DD/P program submissions to the Project Review Committee and the Director of Central Intelligence. While concurring fully in your desire to eliminate any unnecessary work on the part of division officers, and make a more meaningful and concise presentation to the PRC, there are several points which occur to us as requiring further discussion and refinement prior to our unqualified endorsement of your proposal.

2. If our interpretation is correct, it appears that the proposal would eliminate pertinent significant project information which is presently required under the provisions of Regulation No. [REDACTED]. My own feeling is that if the PRC is to have the responsibility for reviewing and making recommendations under the conditions established in the above Regulation, then it needs sufficient detail to enable it to properly carry out its responsibility. If, on the other hand, it is anticipated that with the increasing development and effectiveness of the Clandestine Services planning system some of the responsibilities of the PRC for continuing review of projects can be shifted to the Deputy Director (Plans), then the Regulation should be adjusted to reflect this view. I would like to point out, however, that just a little over three months ago the Regulations dealing with the responsibilities of the PRC and the requirements for program submissions were approved and published. As published, they represented the then current views of all Agency components and specifically received the endorsement of the Deputy Director of Central Intelligence. I would like to suggest, therefore, that before any major change in responsibilities of the PRC are contemplated or planned for, General Cabell's views be sought and policy guidance received on this point.

3. There are several other points which developed during the course of the review, such as:

a. The budget categories as furnished for Mission III may not be as workable as would be ultimately desired;

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b. Is Mission IV a necessary breakdown;

c. Classification presented to the PRC should be the same that is used in the Agency's budget presentation, if at all feasible; and

d. If it were determined that the PRC is to continue to carry out the responsibilities presently outlined for it, would a review of projects by the PRC every two years provide a workable basis for furnishing the PRC the information it requires.

4. I would like very much to explore this proposal further, and have asked [REDACTED] to arrange for briefing the support elements. I have also asked him to arrange for an early meeting between members of your Staff and myself and members of my Staff so that we can exchange views and try to develop a common approach to the problem.

SIGNED

L. K. WHITE  
Deputy Director  
(Support)

SA-DD/S:RBS:mrp (19 July 55)  
Distribution: *orig + 1 - addressees*  
cc: SSA-DD/S

Mr. [REDACTED] Office of Comptroller  
1 - DD/S Chrono  
1 - DD/S Subject

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